

have been amended. Accordingly, claims 9-15 and 17-20 are pending in this application

Claim 9 has been amended in response to the Examiner's action by deleting the indefinite language "...substantially similar..." and "...capable of holding...". Simultaneously, the specific elements of amounts of the monomers, polymerization techniques and types of initiators has been entered.

Claim 11 has been amended to follow from claim 9 as amended.

Claims 17-20 have been amended to correct their dependency and to clarify their language.

Applicant respectfully submits that all amendments are fully supported by the specification as filed and that no new matter has been added.

In accordance with 37 CFR §1.121, this amendment is accompanied by separate pages providing marked-up versions of the amended claims.

The Examiner has rejected claims 9-15 and 17-20 under 35 USC §112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

By the foregoing amendment of claims 9 and 17-20, Applicant respectfully submits that the indefinite language cited by the Examiner has been deleted and replaced with definite limitations and that the dependencies of claims 17-20 has been

corrected, thereby rendering clear the direction of those claims.

In view of these amendments, Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner's rejection has been overcome.

Claims 9 and 16 have been rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph as being incomplete for omitting essential elements.

In view of the cancellation of claim 16 as being redundant in view of claim 17, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection of that claim is no longer necessary.

With respect to the rejection of claim 9, Applicant respectfully submits that the monomers are listed in the claim with sufficient particularity to permit one of ordinary skill in the art to make the invention. Specifically, the claim identifies the monomers as "a purified monoester of a hydroxyalkyl acrylate having a single olefinic double bond" and "a methacrylic acid". The preferred monomers are more specifically listed in claims 10 and 11.

As for the remaining elements noted by the Examiner, claim 9 has been amended to reflect the amounts of the monomers, the means of polymerization and the initiators used. As with the monomers, the particularly preferred initiators are further defined in dependent claims.

Applicant respectfully submits that, as to the "means of polymerization", amendment to claim 9 listing the polymerization techniques is sufficient since the disclosure

itself merely states that "Polymerization is accomplished by the conventional techniques of bulk polymerization, solution polymerization, suspension polymerization or emulsion polymerization. The polymerization technique used is dependent upon the volume of polymer required and the nature of the final product being produced." (Paragraph 24, lines 5-10). These techniques and the conditions applied therein are well known to those of ordinary skill in the art such that their presentation in the claim in this manner is sufficient.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner's rejections have been overcome and that the subject application is in condition for allowance.

Early and favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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